

In the Claims

Claims 1-53, 55 and 56 (Canceled).

54. (Original) A process to produce a branched alkyl ether sulfate composition comprising:

- a) contacting an olefin having an average carbon number in the range of 3 to 18 with 1,3-propane diol in the presence of a catalyst effective to react the olefin with the diol thereby producing a branched alcohol composition; and
- b) contacting the branched alcohol composition with a sulfating agent under conditions effective to produce a branched alkyl ether sulfate composition.